



# GREENSBORO URBAN AREA

## Technical Coordinating Committee

### TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Minutes of November 14, 2001**  
**3:10 p.m. Greensboro, NC**

#### **TAC MEMBERS PRESENT**

Sandy Carmany	TAC Chair, City Council
Mayor Keith Holliday	City Council
Robbie Perkins	City Council
Doug Galyon	Board of Transportation
Mary Rakestraw	Board of County Commissioners

#### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Jim Westmoreland	TCC Chair / GDOT	Les Egger	Guilford County Planning
Elizabeth James	GTA	Ron Wilson	Starmount Company
Jim Ayres	Town of Pleasant Garden	Craig McKinney	GDOT
Tyler Meyer	GDOT	Richard Atkins	Neal-Schafer
Brian Wert	GDOT	Brad Wall	NCDOT Division 7
David Bender	NCDOT Rail Division	Ted Johnson	Airport Authority
Brent McKinney	PART	Tom Martin	GDOT
Peggy Seay	Emert Reporting Service		

Sandy Carmany called the meeting to order at approximately 3:10 p.m.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

##### **Approval of Minutes of August 29, 2001**

Mary Rakestraw moved for the approval of the August 29, 2001 minutes. Robbie Perkins seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

##### **Support for Upcoming TIP Amendments**

Tyler Meyer reminded the Committee that at the last MPO meeting, a resolution to endorse the NC68 Widening Project was approved. This was a preliminary step to amending the TIP and was requested by NCDOT as a formality. A similar process is proposed for the projects under discussion today: Guilford

College Road intersections at Market and Friendly, the Gallimore Dairy Road widening, and the Pegg to Thatcher Connector Feasibility Study. The recommended action that is TAC endorsement of these projects/likely TIP amendments. Robbie Perkins moved approval, seconded by Mary Rakestraw. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

### **Air Quality Conformity Memorandum of Agreement**

Tyler Meyer noted that EPA regulations mandate a Memorandum of Agreement between agencies involved in transportation-air quality conformity in each state. Following two years of development, including the participation of MPO staff, the Division of Air Quality now requests that the MPO adopt the proposed MOA. The document reflects both EPA regulations and the interagency consultation procedures specific to North Carolina. The MOA will govern interagency consultation and review procedures on the development and compliance to air quality requirements of the Long Range Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program, and Travel Demand Model development and maintenance efforts. Other Signators include DENR, NCDOT, FHWA, and FTA. Each of the other six “air quality MPOs” in NC will enter into a MOA with these agencies. All MOAs in the state will include the same language and provisions.

Doug Galyon reported on the “Clean Smokestack” bill in the House that if passed will require significant reductions in power plant emissions. Mary Rakestraw moved approval. Robbie Perkins seconded. Motion carried.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **MPO Priority Needs for 2004-2010 TIP**

Tyler Meyer noted that the first step in developing the TIP is to develop MPO priority needs. Public comments are one input into this process. A public comment period ended November 9th. Advertising was done through the News and Record, Peacemaker, Channel 13, a press release, the MPO web site, and direct mail was to area towns and the GTA’s Title VI list. Three comments were received. Meyer then reviewed each comment and the proposed MPO response. These comments and the staff responses are documented in the meeting handout.

Additionally, there will be a public meeting on November 29th between 6 and 7:30 at the Greensboro Public Library. The MPO will present to the public and allow the public to make comments. These comments will be reviewed prior to considering MPO priority needs for adoption at the December 11th meeting.

The status of the 1999 MPO Priority Needs list was then reviewed in detail. This list was generally quite successful in that most requests were met.

The TCC Needs List was then reviewed in detail. The public transportation needs were still under development and so not included. TAC discussion followed. A purpose & need handout similar to the 1999 materials will be provided at the December 11 meeting. TAC directed staff to bring the list forward as the draft MPO Priority Needs list for review and consideration of approval at the December 11 meeting.

### **Rail Projects & Planning: NCDOT Rail Division**

David Bender, Transportation Planner in the Planning Branch of the NCDOT Rail Division then presented on current and upcoming rail planning and project activities effecting the Guilford County area. This included a review of the Southeast High Speed Rail EIS, the Sealed Corridor Initiative, phase II of the Depot renovation, and the upcoming Traffic Separation Study for Eastern Greensboro and Guilford County. TAC discussion followed.

### **US 29 Pedestrian Bridge: Division 7**

Brad Wall reported that the US 29 Pedestrian Bridge at McKnight Mill road project would begin construction in April 2002. He showed graphics of the proposed design. He noted the purpose and need of the project. Both ramp and and more direct step access will be provided. The material used to build the bridge is a weathered steel that requires no painting. The floor will be made of a composite material that will be very durable. The design appears to be an attractive one that should serve the community well.

### **MPO Planning & Project Update**

Tyler Meyer then reviewed current planning projects including the Airport Area Transportation Study & Thoroughfare Plan Update, Fleming-Lewiston-Horsepen-Interchange Study, Southeast High Speed Rail Tier I EIS, Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Program, and the Travel Demand Model Update. Highlights included the fact that the Airport Area Transportation Study Scope is being re-evaluated. Discussions are underway with NCDOT to create a Pre-TIP process. This is a way of getting a quick start on the environmental document process and on advancement of selected facilities into the TIP. Further discussions between NCDOT, PART and the Triad MPOs is needed to firm up the study process. Discussion followed.:

### **OTHER ITEMS**

#### **Board Member Update**

Doug Galyon deferred his report due to the lateness of the hour.

#### **Regional Update**

Sandy Carmany advised the Committee that the PART Board met and unanimously approved the Resolution that removes the counties from voting status who are not contributing financially. This currently effects Alamance, Davidson, Randolph and Guilford Counties.

#### **Town Reports**

Les Egger noted that Stokesdale adopted a new land use plan recently. The plan reflects the Town's desire for the US 158 widening project to include a bypass around town rather than a widening through it. There appears to be a need for a study to identify a preferred corridor so right-of-way protection can proceed and so issues relative to this project in the Stokesdale area can be explored in detail. Discussions will proceed at the staff level.

#### **Concluding Remarks & Announcements**

Brad Wall stated that the Merritt Drive Bridge over I-40 will re-opening by Thanksgiving or shortly thereafter. Sandy Carmany announced the next meeting of the TAC would be held on December the 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

